FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 23, 2019 Contact: Brian Rothgery, 414-278-4230

## Alexander, Logsdon, Sebring: Public Should be Allowed to Speak at County Board Meetings

MILWAUKEE – Milwaukee County Supervisors Deanna Alexander, Dan Sebring, and Patti Logsdon are proposing to allow for a public comment period during meetings of the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

The Board will vote on the proposal at Thursday's monthly meeting.

"The public deserves to be heard in the halls of government, but for some reason, the Board has not given the public an opportunity to speak during its monthly meetings. We should allow the public to share their views. There is ample precedent for including public comment periods during the meetings of legislative bodies, and in fact it is very common," said Alexander.

Currently, Milwaukee County ordinances only allow for public comments at the standing committee meetings of the Board and when special committees and task forces meet. However, there is no designated time during monthly Board meetings for the public to address all members of the County Board. This means Milwaukee County residents can address only a small portion of the full Board during public comment times.

The Finance and Audit Committee recommended adoption of the proposal last week on a 3-2 vote. While the resolution passed committee, several committee members showed concern and the resolution's final passage by the Board is uncertain.

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